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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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Vietnam: [Ho Chi Minh is reported to have made conciliatory overtures to President Diem through the new Indian chairman of the Vietnam ICC. The North Vietnamese leader reportedly said he was prepared to extend the hand of friendship to Diem--"a patriot"--and raised the possibility that the North and South might exchange members of divided families.]

[South Vietnam regards these overtures as part of Hanoi's campaign to promote an international conference on Vietnam or some form of North-South negotiations.]

[Ho's reported wish that South Vietnam cease air attacks against "resistance elements" is taken as additional evidence that these operations are having a telling effect. The South Vietnamese Defense Department has directed that air strikes be intensified, particularly against Viet Cong headquarters areas.]

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Thailand: [Government leaders, adopting a more pronounced nationalistic outlook, appear determined to resist US advice whenever this does not coincide with what they consider to be Thailand's interests.]

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[Thai Foreign Minister Thanat told [redacted] that henceforth Bangkok would take an independent stance. Premier Sarit, while underscoring Thailand's interdependence with the free world and denying any change in policy, defined this policy in a recent press interview as "pro-nobody."]

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[This trend in Thai thinking, stimulated by doubts over the efficacy of the Geneva settlement on Laos as a barrier to Communist expansion, has been accelerated recently by a growing feeling that the US is accord-
ing preferential treatment to neutralist Cambodia.]

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France - West Germany: De Gaulle's statements during his visit to West Germany suggest that he may hope to enlist Bonn's future full cooperation in the development of nuclear weapons.

In Hamburg on 7 September he appealed for "organic cooperation" of French and German armies, noting that modern arms require increasingly larger technical, industrial, and financial resources. De Gaulle has long been convinced that Europe must develop its own defenses, and has been determined to achieve an independent nuclear weapons capability for France.

West German Defense Minister Strauss has expressed interest in a European deterrent force operating in close cooperation with the United States as a possible alternative to a multilateral NATO atomic force.

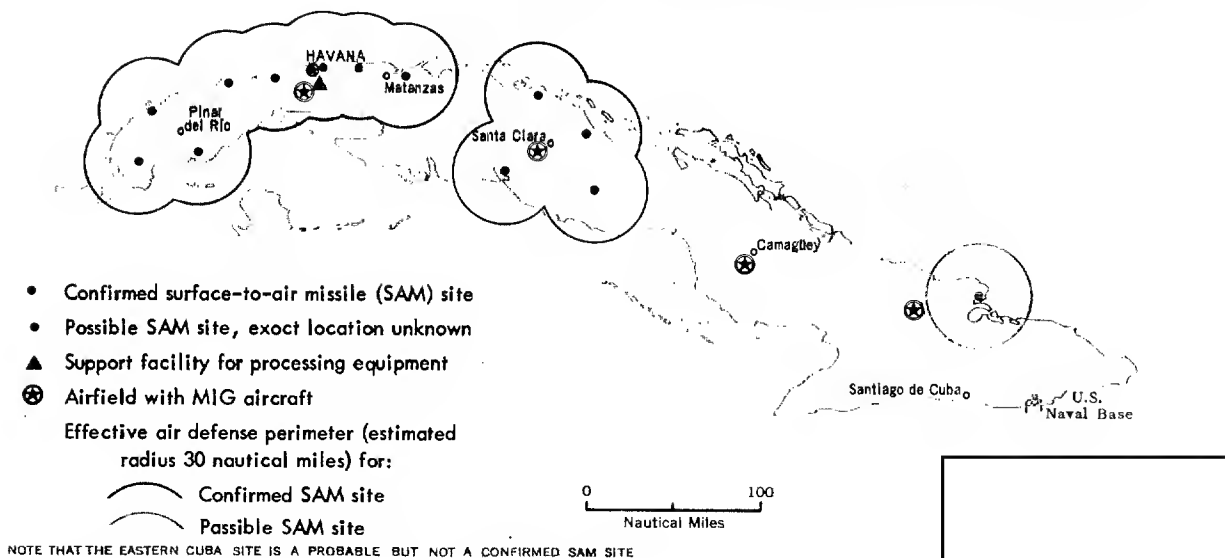
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SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE ACTIVITY IN CUBA, 1 SEPTEMBER 1962



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Cuba: Two unarmed US Navy patrol planes were buzzed on 8 September over international waters near Cuba by aircraft tentatively identified as Soviet-made Fresco (MIG-17) jet fighters.

A somewhat similar incident occurred on 30 August when a Navy patrol plane was fired at by two vessels, probably Cuban. Castro denied that the incident took place and the Cuban Foreign Office refused to accept the US protest.

The Cubans continue to charge the US with violations of Cuban waters, airspace, and territory. The number of such incidents claimed by the Cubans since 1 July has now reached 155.

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